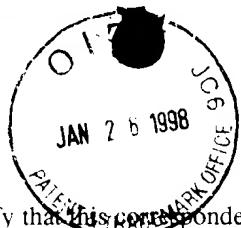


Attn Dkt No. 80146.002
2302-6146.20
PATENT



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on January 20, 1998.

1/20/98
Date

Gail Wardwell
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

PERSSON et al.

Serial No.: 08/844,215 Group Art Unit: 1815

Filing Date: April 17, 1997 Examiner: M. Zeman

Title: HUMAN MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES SPECIFIC FOR
 HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) E2 ANTIGEN

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 25, 1997. The Examiner therein required election of one of the following groups of claims:

Group I, claims 1-26, 81-85, 87-90, 92, 93, 95-98, 103-106, 108, 109 and 111-115 drawn to recombinant human monoclonal antibodies, and their uses as vaccines and in treatments;

Group II, claims 27-30, 86, 91, 94, 99-102, 107, 110 and 116, drawn to single chain antibodies (ScFv) and methods of their use in treatment and vaccines; and

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Group III, claims 31-80, drawn to isolated nucleic acids, expression vectors containing those nucleic acids, for expression in eukaryotic and prokaryotic hosts, and methods of expressing a protein from them.

Applicants hereby elect to prosecute the claims of Group III, claims 31-80, without traverse. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 USC §121 to file a divisional application directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application.

Please direct all further communications in this case to:

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/7/98

By:



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